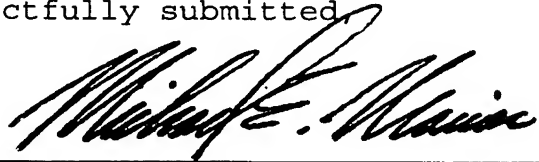


REMARKS

Entry of the present preliminary amendment is respectfully requested, where the specification has been amended to include a priority claim reference to the provisional application serial no. 60/435,231 filed December 20, 2002.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Michael E. Marion".

By

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